

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2079
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR
SUBJ: GOG REACTION TO CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS

1. THE NEWS THAT THE VARIUS GREEK CYPRIOT POLITICAL
FACTIONS HAD AGREED THAT SPYROS KYPRIANOU WOULD BE UN-
OPPOSED TO COMPLETE THE PRESIDENTIAL TERM OF THE LATE
ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS WAS WELL RECEIVED IN MOST QUARTERS IN
ATHENS. THE GOG, WHICH HAD BEEN URGING "UNITY," APPEARED
TO BE PARTICULARLY PLEASED AS EVIDENCED BY A STATEMENT
MADE BY PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS ON AUGUST 16.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER STATED: "CYPRUS' POLITICAL LEADER-
SHIP HAS DEMONSTRATED WISDOM AND A HIGH SENSE OF RESPONSIBI-
LITY IN THESE CRUCIAL MOMENTS. THE FACT THAT IN THE FIRST
PHASE, UNTIL RECOURSE TO THE POPULAR VERDICT, PERSONAL
ANTAGONISMS AND PARTY DIFFERENCES HAVE BEEN AVOIDED
JUSTIFIES OPTIMISM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISLAND'S
POLITICAL AFFAIRS. THE ABSENCE OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS
MUST BE FILLED BY THE UNITY OF THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE. A
UNITY WHICH WILL FACILITATE COOPERATION BETWEEN ATHENS AND
NICOSIA AND WILL MAKE EFFECTIVE THE FULL SUPPORT WHICH
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GREECE IS DETERMINED TO GIVE TO CYPRUS."

3. GEORGE MAVROS, LEADER OF THE PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION PARTY, THE
UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC CENTER (UDC) IN A STATEMENT YESTERDAY,
ALSO WELCOMED "THE DECISION OF THE FOUR PARTIES (ON CYPRUS) TO
SUPPORT
OR NOT OPPOSE KYPRIANOU'S CANDIDANCY," MAVROS ADDED THAT

KYPRIANOU HAD HANDLED THE CYPRUS QUESTION AS FOREIGN MINISTER FOR A LONG PERIOD UNTIL HE WAS REMOVED AT THE INSISTENCE OF THE ATHENS JUNTA. HE WAS, THEREFORE, QUALIFIED TO ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE POLICY OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS "WHICH IS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY." MAVROS WENT ON TO SAY THE "EXPERIMENT" OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAD FAILED AND CONCLUDED THAT HE THOUGHT "THIS COMEDY" WOULD NOT BE CONTINUED.

4. THE MEDIA GENERALLY HAVE HERALDED THE SHOW OF SOLIDARITY IN NICOSIA, CHARACTERIZING IT AS A DEMONSTRATION OF THE POLITICAL MATURITY OF THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS.
MILLS

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